IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 15 (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A refrigerating appliance comprising:

at least two storage compartments thermally insulated from each other and from a surrounding area;

an evaporator, which can be cooled independently from an evaporator of at least one other storage compartment, being provided with each storage compartment, wherein the evaporator from one of the compartments comprises two evaporators connected in series; and

means for switching the mode of operation of at least one of the compartments between a freezing mode and a non-freezing mode.

17. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 16, wherein the means for switching the mode of operation also allow switching to a 0°C mode.

18. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 16, wherein the means for switching the mode of operation are provided for the at least two compartments.

19. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 16, wherein at least one of the compartments has a wire tube evaporator.

20. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 19, wherein another of the compartments has a lateral wall evaporator.

21. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 19, wherein another of the compartments also has a wire tube evaporator.

22. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 16, wherein at least one of the compartments has a no-frost evaporator.

23. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 22, wherein the no-frost evaporator includes a laminar evaporator.

24. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 22, wherein the no-frost evaporator includes a plate-type design evaporator.

25. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 16, wherein the first and second compartments have insulation of substantially the same thickness.

26. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 25, wherein the first and second compartments have different volumes and can be operated in the same plurality of operating modes.

27. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 16, wherein at least one of the compartments cannot be switched to a freezing mode, and has a thinner insulation than the other of the compartments which can be switched to the freezing mode.

28. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 16, wherein a compressor is installed in a recess made in one of the compartments.

29. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 16, wherein a compressor is installed in a socket unit.

30. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 29, wherein at least two compartments are formed in a body which can be connected to the socket unit in at

least one of a first orientation and a second orientation rotated 180° about a horizontal axis relative to the first orientation.

31. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 16, wherein the means for switching the mode of operation of at least one of the compartments between a freezing mode and a non-freezing mode includes a regulator and a selector switch.

32. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 31, further comprising a second regulator and a second selector switch, wherein each of the compartments is associated with one of the regulators and selector switches to control the mode of operation within the compartment.

33. (Currently Amended) A refrigerating appliance comprising:

at least two storage compartments thermally insulated from each other and from a surrounding area;

an evaporator, which can be cooled independently from an evaporator of at least one other storage compartment, being provided with each storage compartment, the evaporators of each of the storage compartments being connected in parallel to effect the independent cooling, wherein one of the evaporators from one of the compartments comprises two evaporators connected in series, and wherein each of the storage compartments is operable in a plurality of operating modes of different temperatures; and

a mode switch cooperable with the evaporator and acting to switch the mode of operation of the compartments between the operating modes.

34. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 33, wherein the plurality of operating modes for each of the storage compartments are the same.

35. (Previously Presented) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 33, wherein the plurality of operating modes for each of the storage compartments are different.

36. (Currently Amended) The refrigerating appliance according to Claim 16, wherein the evaporators of each of the storage compartments are connected in parallel to effect the independent cooling.